(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Disinvestment Commission has submitted its first report to the Government on 20-2-97. The Disinvestment Commission has recommended inter-alia on level of disinvestment in three PSUs i.e. GAIL, ITDC and Modern Food Industries Ltd., establishment of disinvestment fund for PSUs, restructuring areas for PSUs and recommendations on corporate governance and autonomy for PSUs. These recommendations are under examination in the Government.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the Government is contemplating to refer some more PSUs to the Disinvestment Commission for its examination.

Indo-Iran Joint Venture in Banking Sector

3223. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Indo-Iran joint venture bank;

(b) if so, the main objectives to set up the above joint-venture bank;

(c) whether the branches of the joint-venture bank would be set up both at Iran and India; and

(d) by when the above joint-venture bank is likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that no Indian bank has approached them for setting up any joint venture bank in Iran. Likewise no Iranian bank has approached RBI for setting up joint venture bank in India.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Indian Judicial Service

3224. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought the views of all the State Governments with regard to the constitution of All India Judicial Service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be constituted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, comments have been received from 23 States. 9 State Governments have supported the proposal and 7 others have given their conditional support. 7 States have not supported the proposal and 2 State Governments are yet to respond.

(c) The matter relating to the creation of an All India Judicial Service is receiving the attention of the Government. It is not practicable to indicate a definite time frame for its constitution.

[Translation]

Fake Currency Note

3225. PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether the Reserve Bank of India has cautioned all its Zonal offices in regard to the use of fake currency notes in India which being sent by Pakistan on a large scale ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions to all its issue offices including offices at Chennai, Calcutta, New Delhi and Mumbai on 14th August 1996, asking them to exercise utmost care while accepting/examining currency notes tendered at their end, so that forgeries, if any, do not escape undetected. Further, they have also been advised to caution all Public Sector banks, private sector/Co-operative banks coming under their jurisdiction to exercise similar care.

Laser Machines

3226. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the laser machines known as revolutionary in the field of surgery are being indigenously manufactured;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cost of indigenously manufactured laser machines are lower than the cost of the imported ones; and

(d) if so, the estimated cost to be incurred on the indigenously manufactured machines ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Only one Indian manufacturer is reported to be manufacturing Laser Machines.

(c) and (d) The cost of indigenously manufactured machines is reported to be lower than the cost of imported ones. The estimated cost of the indigenously manufactured machines depends on the in-built facilities desired by the customer as per the different models.